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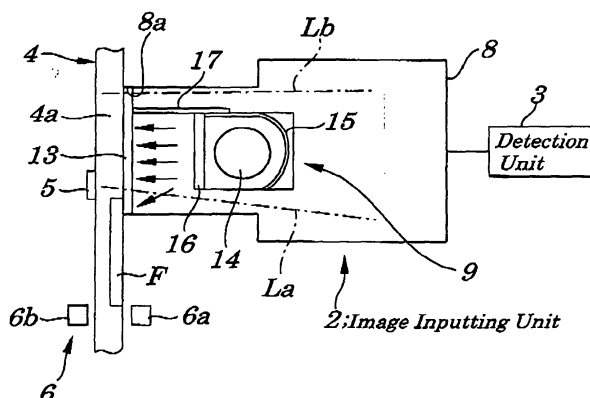
(54) **Image inputting device**

(57) An image inputting device (2) is provided which is capable of making reliable and speedy detection of an indicia even for a nonstandard size postal matter (F). The postal matter (F), when having passed by a proximity detecting section (6), is radiated with ultraviolet light at specified timing from light radiating unit (9). When a postal matter (F) is radiated with ultraviolet light, fluorescence is emitted from a phosphor formed on an indicia after being pumped. In the case where the indicia is an meter,

when the meter passes by a fluorescence field of view, red fluorescence enters a fluorescence light receiving optical system along a fluorescence detecting optical axis. If the indicia is a postage stamp containing a substance that emits phosphorescence, when the postage stamp passes by a phosphorescence detecting field of view where no ultraviolet light is not emitted, green fluorescence enters a phosphorescence light receiving optical system along a phosphorescence detecting optical axis (La).

FIG. 1

1: Indicia Detection Processing Module





European Patent
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 05 00 1795

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
A	US 3 943 361 A (MILLER CARL T) 9 March 1976 (1976-03-09) * claims 1-7; figure 1 * -----	1-12	INV. G07D7/12 G01B11/00
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G06K G07D G01B B07C
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 23 February 2007	Examiner Mennerun, Steeve
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3943361	A	09-03-1976	NONE

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82